JAM 3 MID TE



Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box —	\rightarrow	+	
---	---------------	---	--

PTO/SB/21 (6-98)
Approved for use through 09/30/2000. OMB 0651-0031
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

valid OMB control number.				
	Application Number	10/696,056		
TRANSMITTAL	Filing Date	October 29, 2003		
FORM First Named Inven		Freudenrich, et al.		
(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Group Art Unit	Unknown		
	Examiner Name	Unknown		
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	CFLAY.00207		
ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)				
Fee Attached Fee Attached Drawin Amendment / Response After Final Affidavits/declaration(s) Extension of Time Request Express Abandonment Request Information Disclosure Statement Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application (for an (path) (path) Rettion (Petition Addres Termin (for an (path) (pa	ing-related Papers Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) companying Petition n to Convert to a onal Application of Attorney, Revocation e of Correspondence s al Disclaimer Entity Statement st for Refund c on Statement of Reaso	After Allowance Communication to Group Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Proprietary Information Status Letter Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Postcard Receipt ons for Allowance mailed on		
Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR	11, 200T			
1.52 or 1.53				
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT				
Firm or Individual name Chad Walter Signature				
Date January 10, 2005				
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING				
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U. S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date: January 10, 2005				
Typed or printed name Rhonda K. McGee				

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be send to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

فع

Date

January 10, 2005

Genonday, 41184

Signature



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Freudenrich, et al. § GROUP ART UNIT: 1761

FILED: October 29, 2003 §

INVENTION: Improved Nixtamalization § EXAMINER: Milton Cano

Process

SERIAL No: 10/696,056 § ATTY FILE: CFLAY.00207

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Applicants believe that Examiner's Reasons For Allowance set forth in the Notice of Allowance mailed on November 17, 2004 are incomplete.

The Examiner states that the claimed process is directed towards a nixtamalization process (steps a through k) with a conservation step (step c) to reuse the alkaline solution in multiple batches.

The Examiner further indicates that the prior art does not disclose or suggest the claimed step of draining only the grain slurry from the cooking kettle and leaving the alkaline supernate in the kettle to be used with the next processing batch.

Applicants assert that another novel aspect of the claimed invention is the conservation that occurs at step j) when fresh water from a washing step is sent to a collection tank so that it may be used as "push water" in step e) to transport the masa slurry from a soak tank to a hopper.

Respectfully submitted,

Chad Walter

Registration No. 54,625

Attorney for Applicant

CARSTENS & CAHOON, L.L.P.

P.O. Box 802334 Dallas, TX 75380

(972) 367-2001

(972) 367-2002 Fax



Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this document is being deposited, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.10, with the United States Postal Service via first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 10, 2005.

Name:

Rhonda K. McGee